

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 096601

20

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /011 R

66664

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O: JDLEE

APPROVED BY: S/S-O: SEFRY

----- 109435

R 190605 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLOSACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096601

EXDIS

FOLL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO NATO FROM REYKJAVIK 18 MAY 73
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T REYKJAVIK 0533

EXDIS

DEPT PLS PASS SECDEF AND USLOSACLANT

E. O. 11652: GDS 12/31/81

TAGS: MARR IC

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION ISSUE

REF: USNATO 2346

1. REFTTEL GENERALLY JIBES WITH INFORMATION KNOWN HERE WITH
EXCEPTION PARA 5. WE ARE PUZZLED BY TOMASSON'S INTERPRETATION
OF ARTICLE VII. THE AGREEMENT DOES NOT GIVE NAC SIX MONTHS TO
DELIBERATE. AS INTERPRETED BY ICELAND'S MFA AND BY IDF JUDGE
ADVOCATE'S OFFICE, IT GIVES THE USG AND GOI SIX MONTHS TO REACH
AN AGREEMENT FROM THE DATE OF THE FORMAL REQUEST TO NAC. IF NO
AGREEMENT IS REACHED WITHIN THAT SIX- MONTH PERIOD, GOI MAY ANY
TIME THEREAFTER GIVE NOTICE OF TERMINATION, IN WHICH CASE ALL
MILITARY FORCES MUST BE REMOVED WITHIN 12 MONTHS FROM DATE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 096601

OF NOTICE. IN OTHER WORDS, THE AGREEMENT TECHNICALLY PROVIDES ONLY SIX MONTHS FOR WORKING OUT AN AGREEMENT AND NOT THE 18 MONTHS TOMASSON RELATES. OF COURSE, THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT DOES NOT PRECLUDE NEGOTIATIONS DURING THE 12 MONTH PERIOD IN

WHICH TO REACH A NEW AGREEMENT, BUT DURING THAT PERIOD IDF MUST MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO WITHDRAW. OUR INTERPRETATION IS REINFORCED BY FONMIN AGUSTSSON'S ACTION LAST WEEK (REYKJAVIK TEL 0509) IN GIVING USG ONE MONTH'S INFORMAL ADVANCE NOTICE, WHICH HE THEN REMARKED WILL GIVE US "7 MONTHS TO WORK OUT A NEW AGREEMENT." ALSO, THE GOVT'S PLATFORM STATES, " THE AIM SHALL BE TO HAVE THE DEPARTURE OF THE DEFENSE FORCE TAKE PLACE DURING THE ELECTION TERM." THIS HAS BEEN GENERALLY INTERPRETED HERE TO MEAN THAT IF THE GOVT WANTS THE IDF TO WITHDRAW IN ACCORDANCE WITH TERMS OF THE PLATFORM, IT MUST INVOKE ARTICLE VII BY DEC 1, 1973 AND GIVE THE 12- MONTH SUBSEQUENT TERMINATION NOTICE ON JUNE 1, 1974. THE LIFE OF THE GOVT TERMINATES JUNE 1, 1975.

2. PERHAPS TOMASSON IS CONFUSING AN INTENTION BY FONMIN AGUSTSSON AND THE ACTUAL TERMS OF THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT. ABOUT A MONTH AGO WHEN AGUSTSSON SPRANG THE SURPRISE OF INVOKING ART VII, AGUSTSSON TOLD US HE WOULD NOT BE A STICKLER FOR AN EXACT SIX MONTHS. IF IT LOOKED LIKE A NEW AGREEMENT WAS NEAR, HE WOULD STRETCH THE SIX MONTHS TO SEVEN OR EIGHT. HE WOULD THEN COUNT ON A TWO TO THREE MONTH ALTHING DEBATE THEREAFTER. THIS WOULD THEN GIVE HIM ENOUGH TIME TO INVOKE THE 12- MONTH TERMINATION CLAUSE, IF NECESSARY, STILL WITHIN THE TIME FRAME OUTLINED BY THE PLATFORM DECLARATION. THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE, BASED ON RECENT EXPERIENCE, THAT THE COMMUNISTS WILL LET AGUSTSSON DRAG HIS FEET ONCE ART VII IS INVOKED. IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO LEARN, BUT ONLY IF IT CAN BE DONE DISCREETLY, WHETHER TOMASSON'S INTERPRETATION IS HIS OWN OR CONVEYED TO HIM BY THE MFA. WE HAVE EVIDENCE THAT THE FONMIN IS MISLEADING PRO- IDF ALTHING MEMBERS BY INTIMATING ART VII IS ONLY A PROCEDURAL STEP WHICH MUST BE INVOKED IN ORDER TO INITIATE RENEGOTIATION TALKS WITH USG. WE ALSO HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE TOMASSON HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PLAY DOWN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF INVOKING ART VII.

3. WITH REGARD TO NATO'S STUDY REFERRED TO IN PARA 5, WE ARE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 096601

NOT AT ALL SURE GOI INTENDS TO ACCEPT ANOTHER REPORT FROM NATO. IN FONMIN'S FOREIGN POLICY SPEECH IN ALTHING APRIL 12, AGUSTSSON STATED HE HAD ALREADY RECEIVED REPORT FROM " NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL".

4. WORD IS LEAKING OUT OF PROGRESS PARTY CIRCLES THAT FONMIN INTENDS INVOKE ART VII SOON. THREE PROMINENT MEMBERS OF IN-

DEPENDENCE PARTY (LARGEST AND MOST PRO- IDF PARTY IN ALTHING
OPPOSITION) ADVISED US OF THIS YESTERDAY ON ASSUMPTION WE WERE
NOT AWARE OF IT, AND CAUTIONED US NOT TO COUNT ON BEING SAVED
BY THE ALTHING MAJORITY. THEY SAID NO DOUBT OF OUTCOME IF AL-
THING VOTE TAKEN TODAY. THEY WOULD NOT PREDICT OUTCOME SIX OR
EIGHT MONTHS FROM NOW BECAUSE OF THE SPLINTERING GOING ON
IN THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY AND THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY.
THE LATTER IS THE OTHER OPPOSITION PARTY. OUR THREE INFORMANTS
STATE THAT SOME CURRENT SUPPORTERS OF IDF IN ALTHING MAY BAR-
GAIN AWAY THE IDF FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL GAIN.

5. WE STILL BELIEVE SITUATION CALLS FOR CONCERN ON OUR PART.
IRVING UNQUOTE RUSH

CONFIDENTIAL
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE096601
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O: JDLEE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730551/aaaajosn.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 73 USNATO 2346
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980226
Subject: IDF RETENTION ISSUE
TAGS: MARR, IC
To: USLOSACLANT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005